



Department of Justice

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DISTRIBUTOR OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CHARGED

PRESS RELEASE

Timothy M. Morrison, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that DEWEY PARSONS, 43, Marseilles, Illinois, was charged today with Distribution of Child Pornography, following an investigation by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency and the Hamilton County Metro Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force.

The information alleges that PARSONS distributed child pornography by means of a computer on April 16, 2008, April 21, 2008, and May 21, 2008, into the Southern District of Indiana. The information also alleges that in a separate incident, PARSONS distributed child pornography by means of a computer within the Northern District of Illinois on April 16, 2008, and April 21, 2008.

According to Assistant U. S. Attorney A. Brant Cook, who is prosecuting the case for the government, PARSONS faces a maximum possible prison sentence of 20 years and a maximum possible fine of \$250,000. An initial hearing will be scheduled before a U.S. Magistrate Judge in Indianapolis, Indiana.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice. Led by the U.S. Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS), Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit <http://www.projectsafechildhood.gov>.

The information is an allegation only, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at trial or by guilty plea.

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